

CLAIMS

1. Method for non-destructive stretching and fastening of a pelt (2) on a distension element/pelt board (4), for which use is made of a stretching machine (6) of the kind comprising holding means (8) for engaging the lower end (24) of a relevant distension element/pelt board (4), and gripping elements (12) for fastening of the lower end (24) of a pelt (2) drawn loosely over said distension element/pelt board during the stretching of said pelt (2) on the distension element/pelt board (4), where the distension element/pelt board (4) is placed in holding means (8) and where the gripping elements (12) comprising inner parts (10) and outer parts (20) are brought into engagement with the pelt (2) by the introduction of the inner parts (10) between the surface (14) of the distension element/pelt board and the leather side (16) of the pelt, and the outer parts (20) opposite the inner parts (10) are displaced towards the fur side (22) of the pelt for the fastening of the pelt (2) between the inner parts (10) and the outer parts (20), where the stretching takes place by effecting a displacement between the gripping elements (12) and the holding means (8) for the lower end of a relevant distension element/pelt board (4), and where an effective fastening of the pelt (2) in the stretched position on the distension element/pelt board is established by the drawing of a fixing bag (26) over the outside of the fur side (22) of the pelt, which at least over a part of the lower end (18) (the tail end) of the pelt is brought into tight contact with the fur side (22) of the pelt, followed by a releasing of the gripping elements (12) from the pelt (2) and a releasing of the holding means (8) for the distension element (4), **characterised in that the gripping elements (12) engage with and fasten the pelt (2) substantially along the whole periphery of the pelt.**
2. Method according to claim 1, **characterised in that during the relative displacement between the holding means (8) for the pelt board (4) and the gripping elements (12), a vibratory movement is imparted to said holding means (8) and/or the gripping elements (12), said movement oriented substantially in the longitudinal direction of the distension element/pelt board.**
3. Stretching machine for use in the execution of the method disclosed in claim 1, and comprising holding means (8) for a distension element/pelt board (4), gripping

elements (12) which can be activated for engagement/fastening of the lower end (24) of a pelt (2) drawn loosely over distension element/pelt board (4), and means for effecting a relative displacement between the distension element/pelt board (4) and the gripping elements (12), and where the gripping elements (12) comprise at 5 least two inner parts (10) which are led between the surface (14) of the distension element/pelt board (4) and the leather side (16) of the pelt from the lower end (24) of the board, and cooperating with the inner parts (10) at least two outer parts (20) with subtending sides which stand in connection with guiding and pressure means for displacement of the outer parts (2) between a closed position, where the outer 10 parts are pressed into contact with the fur side (22) of the pelt for the fastening of the lower end of the pelt (2), and an open position where the pelt (2) is free, characterised in that the sides (25, 29) of the inner parts (10) and the outer parts (20) respectively, said sides (25, 29) facing towards the distension element/pelt board (4), are configured to match the shape of the distension 15 element/pelt board (4), so that the gripping elements (12) engage with the lower end (18) of the pelt substantially along the whole of the outside periphery (14) of the distension element/pelt board (4).

4. Stretching machine (6) for execution of the method according to claim 2, 20 characterised in that on the holding means (8) and/or the gripping elements (12) there is a vibrator unit (60) (which can be activated), the vibration amplitude of which is oriented substantially in the longitudinal direction of the distension element/pelt board.

25 5. Stretching machine according to claim 3 or 4, characterised in that the inner parts (10) comprise an upper counter-hold flange (27), the edge (28) of which on the side (30) facing away from the distension element/pelt board (4) comprises a track (32), and that the sides of the outer parts (20) facing towards the upper edge (28) comprise a pressure flange (33) which cooperates with the 30 track (32) and has an edge (35) with a shape which corresponds to the shape of the track (32).

6. Stretching machine according to any of the claims 3-5, characterised in that the inner parts (10) of the gripping elements (12) consist of two open,

similarly-shaped but laterally reversed half parts (34, 36) which are displaceable towards each other, and which are housed on the respective brackets (38) which are disposed opposite each other via a pivot connection, where by actuators (40) said brackets (38) are displaceable towards and away from each other between a 5 closed position where the subtending sides (42, 44) of the inner parts (10) are more less in contact with each other, and an open position where the inner parts (10) are lying at a distance from each other, and where the outer parts (20) are placed on pivotally mounted arms (46, 48) for the respective brackets (38), said 10 arms (46, 48) being displaceable by actuators between a position where the flange edges (33) are pressed in against the tracks (32) in the upper edge (28) of the inner parts (10), and a position where said flange edges are lying at a distance from said tracks (32).

15 7. Stretching machine according to any of the claims 3-6, characterised in that the subtending sides (50) of the inner parts (10) extend in a concave manner.

20 8. Stretching machine according to any of the claims 3-7, characterised in that the counter-hold flanges (27) stand up from a plane part (52) which is oriented in a substantially transverse manner in relation to the extent of the counter-hold flanges.